



No.

The Prince And The Magician

BASED ON THE TELUGU FOLKTALE, BALA NAGAMMA



There are many who love to tell a story and many more who love to listen to one. And each time a story is retold, it acquires a new colour and a fresh dimension.

The grandmother who heard a story as a little girl from her grandmother, tells the same story to her grandchild but with a few embellishments of her own. The traveller from a distant land who happens to hear a story in the course of his travels, later tells it to his own people, modifying it to make it more dramatic or more acceptable to his audience. That is how stories which had first been told centuries ago have been kept alive and why we find recurring themes in the tales told in different regions separated by hundreds of miles.

This Amar Chitra Katha is an adaptation of *Balanagamma*, one of the most popular folktales of Andhra Pradesh.

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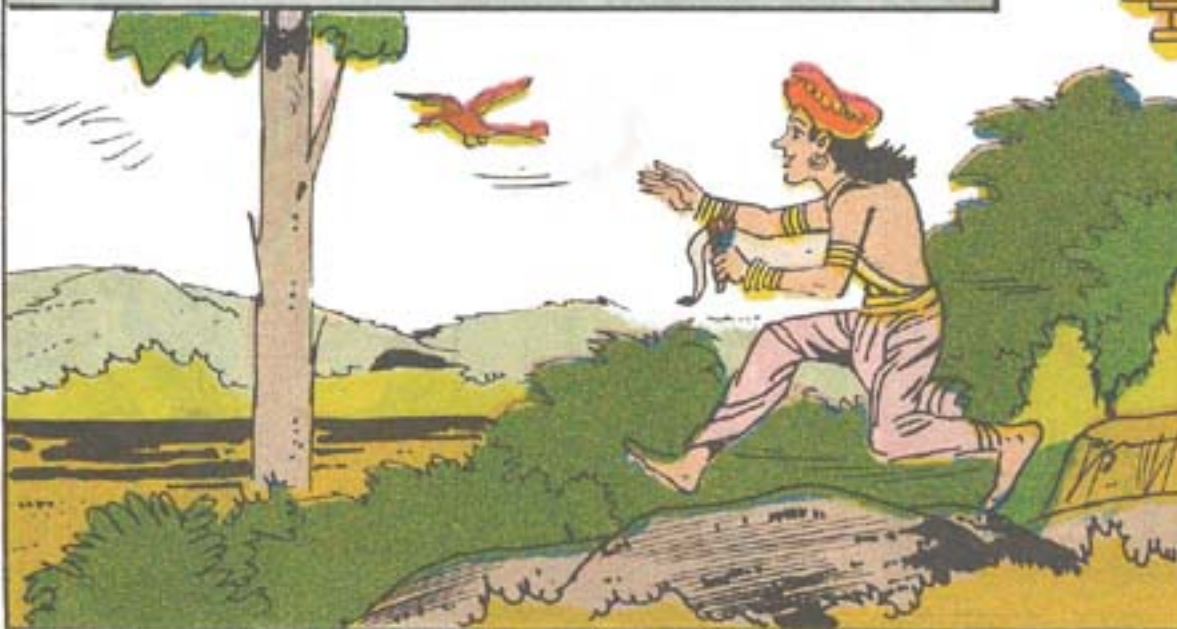
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THE PRINCE AND THE MAGICIAN



ONE DAY, A YOUNG PRINCE CALLED BALARAJU WAS PLAYING OUTSIDE THE PALACE ...

... WHEN HE SAW A WOMAN WITH A POT ON HER HEAD GOING PAST.

LET'S SEE HOW GOOD MY AIM IS.



YOU! WELL, WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT FROM A BOY WHO HAS NO FATHER?



WHAT DID YOU SAY?

I...NOTHING! NOTHING!..



YOU SAID SOMETHING ABOUT MY FATHER!

NO! NO!



BALARAJU RUSHED BACK TO THE PALACE.

MOTHER!

WHAT IS IT, SON?

WHERE IS MY FATHER?

WHY DO YOU ASK?

I WANT TO KNOW. PLEASE TELL ME WHERE MY FATHER IS.

I SUPPOSE YOU'LL HAVE TO BE TOLD SOONER OR LATER. NOT ONLY ABOUT YOUR FATHER, BUT ALSO YOUR MOTHER.

MY MOTHER?

YOUR MOTHER, BALA NAGAMMA, WAS MY YOUNGEST SISTER. WE WERE SEVEN IN ALL AND WE WERE MARRIED TO SEVEN PRINCES, ALL BROTHERS.

"ONE DAY OUR HUSBANDS LEFT TO PUT DOWN A REBELLION IN A DISTANT PART OF THE COUNTRY."

"YOU WERE BORN SOON AFTER THEY LEFT."

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL BABY!

IF ONLY HIS FATHER WERE HERE.

"YOUR ARRIVAL DISPELLED THE GLOOM THAT PERVADED THE PALACE AFTER THE DEPARTURE OF THE PRINCES."

"BUT SEVEN DAYS LATER A WICKED MAN CAME TO THE PALACE."

"HE WAS A MAGICIAN. WHEN HE SAW YOUR MOTHER —"

YOUR BEAUTY TAKES MY BREATH AWAY.

MARRY ME!

I AM ALREADY MARRIED. PLEASE GO AWAY.

ALL RIGHT. BUT YOU WILL GO WITH ME.

HE... HE HAS TURNED BALA NAGAMMA INTO A DOG BECAUSE SHE REFUSED TO MARRY HIM!





WAIT! IT'S NO USE! THEY MUST BOTH BE DEAD!



WHAT'S THE MATTER?

I...I TOLD HIM ABOUT BALA NAGAMMA.



THE SISTERS DID THEIR BEST TO KEEP BALARAJU AT HOME.

PLEASE DON'T LEAVE US.

WE HAVE LOST OUR HUSBANDS AND OUR SISTER. YOU ARE ALL WE HAVE.



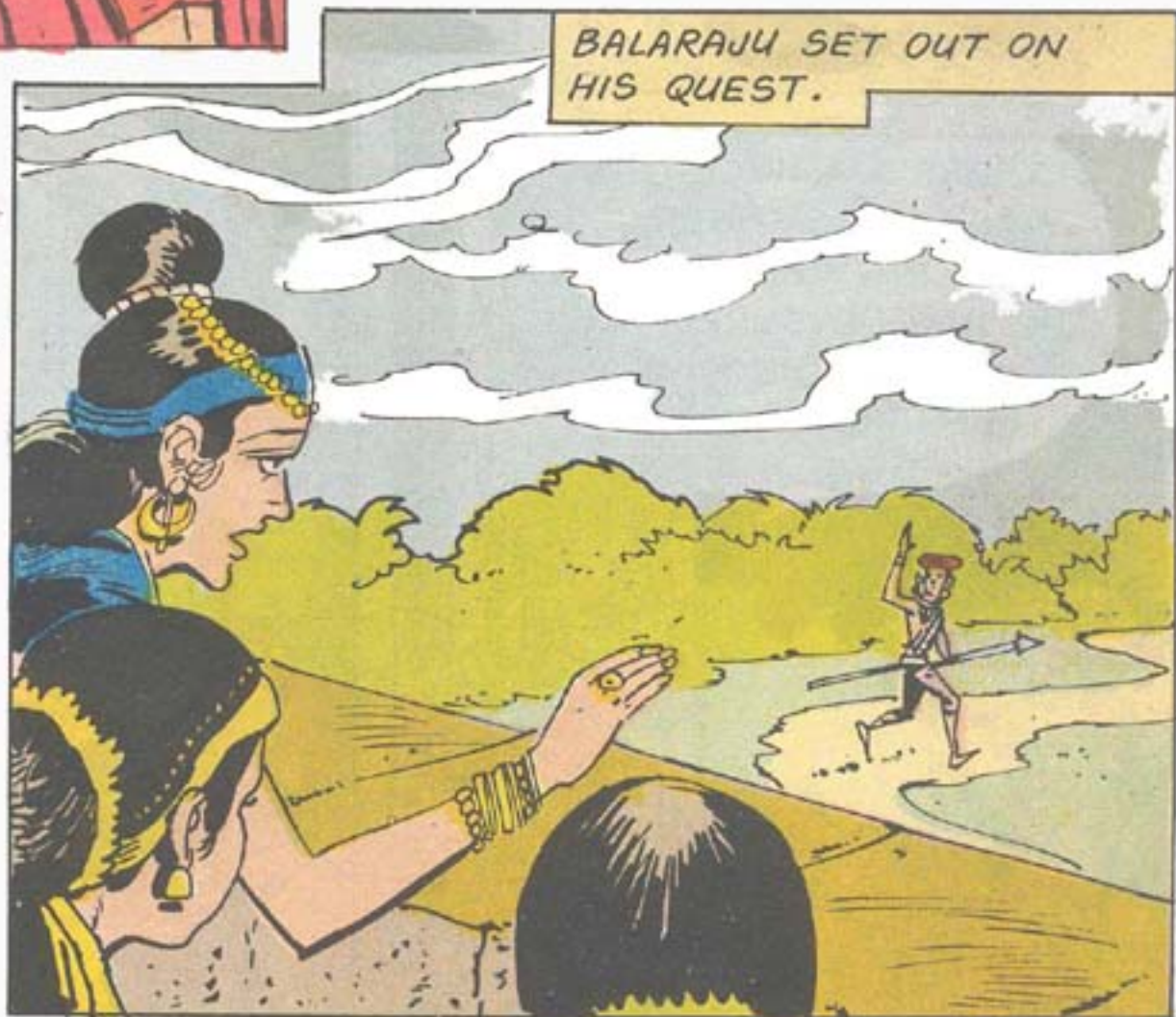
BESIDES, YOU ARE A MERE BOY!

THE MAGICIAN IS POWERFUL AND RUTHLESS!



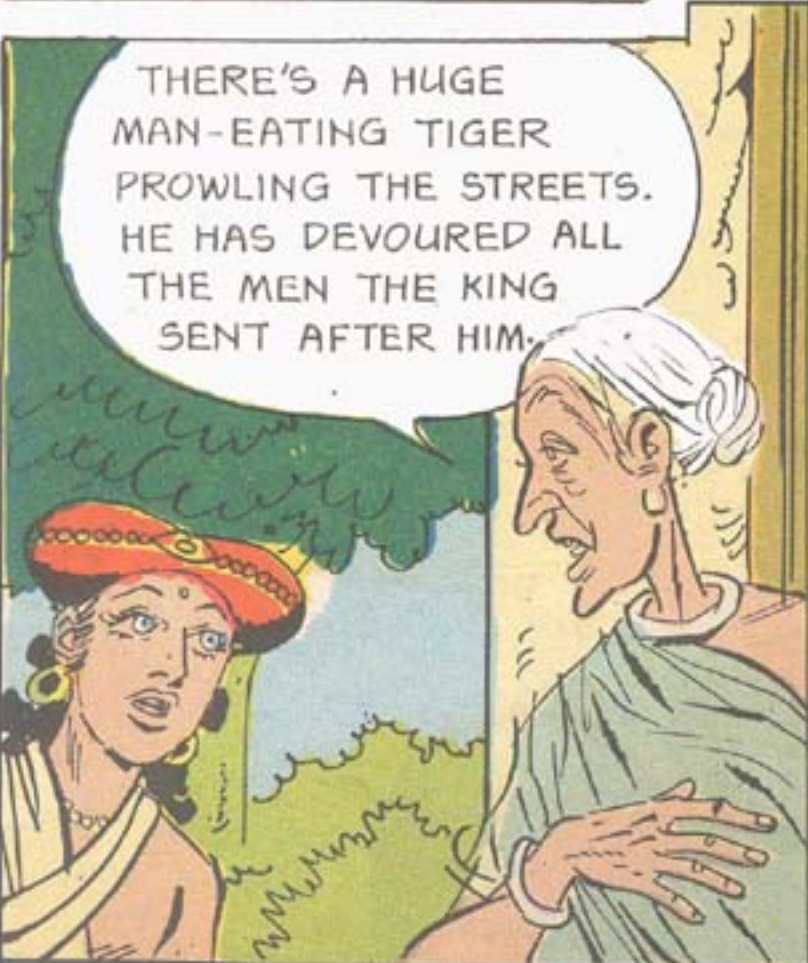
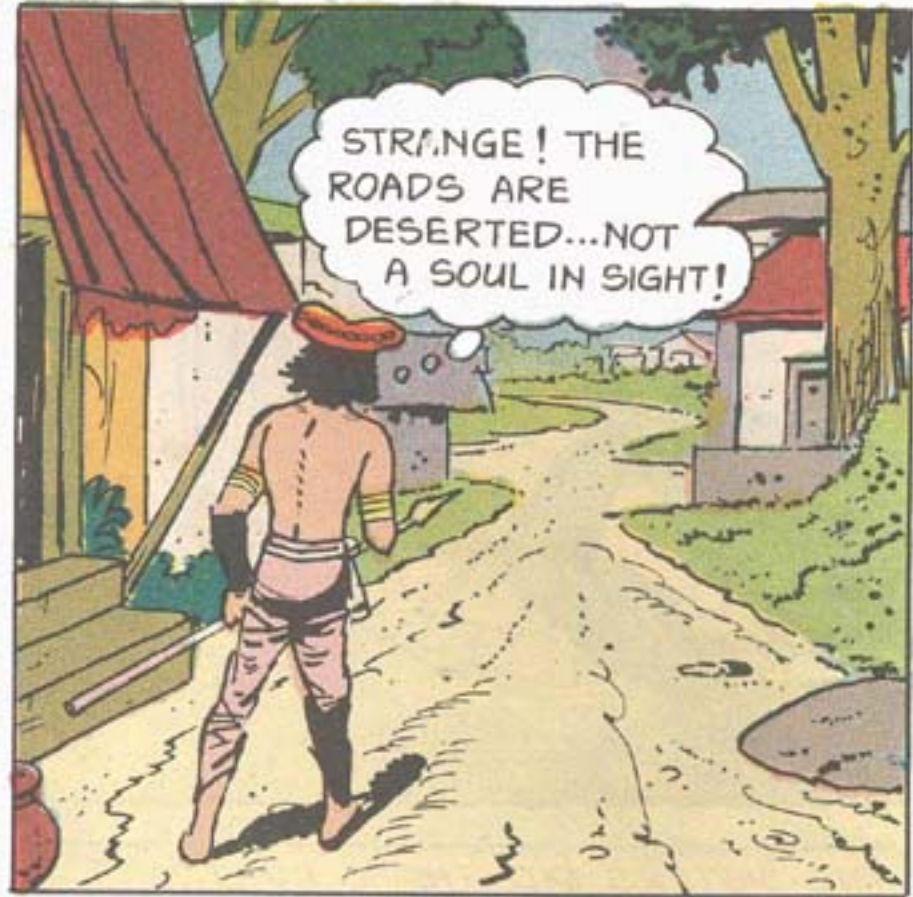
DON'T TRY TO STOP ME. LET ME GO, I BEG YOU.

SEEING THAT HE WAS DETERMINED, THE SISTERS FINALLY LET HIM GO.



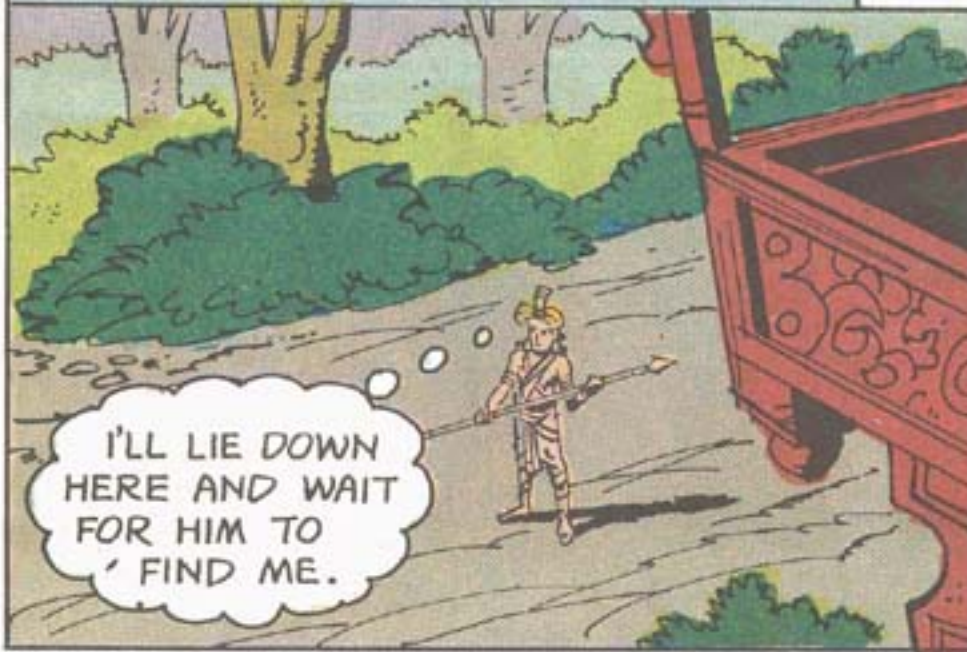
BALARAJU SET OUT ON HIS QUEST.

AFTER SEVERAL DAYS —





BALARAJU BEGAN TO SEARCH FOR THE TIGER. AFTER SOME TIME HE FOUND HIMSELF OUTSIDE A PALACE.



PRESENTLY A DARK SHAPE APPEARED IN THE DISTANCE.



BALARAJU CUT OFF THE TIGER'S PAWS AND TAIL ...



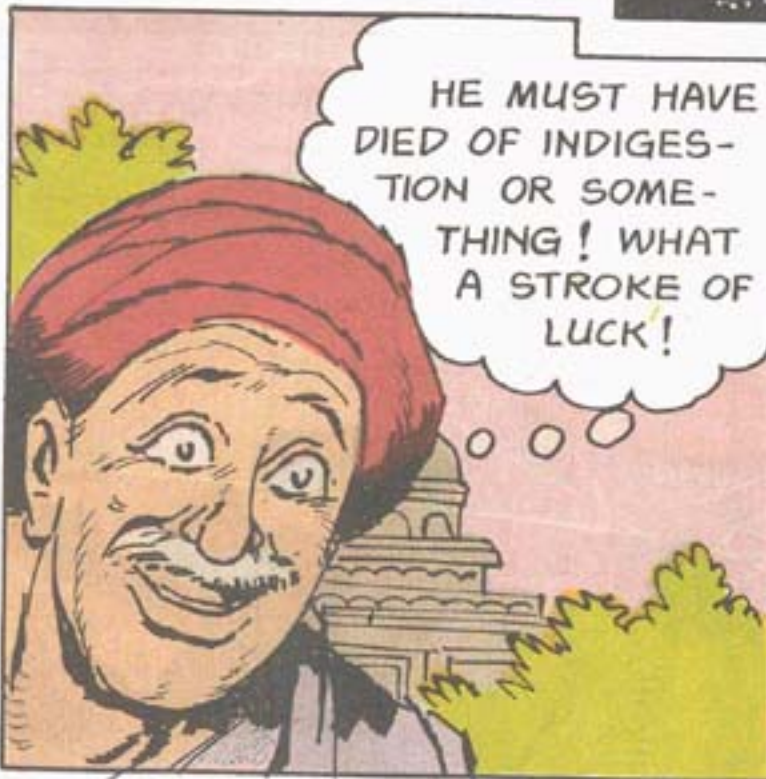
... AND WENT BACK TO THE OLD WOMAN'S HOUSE.



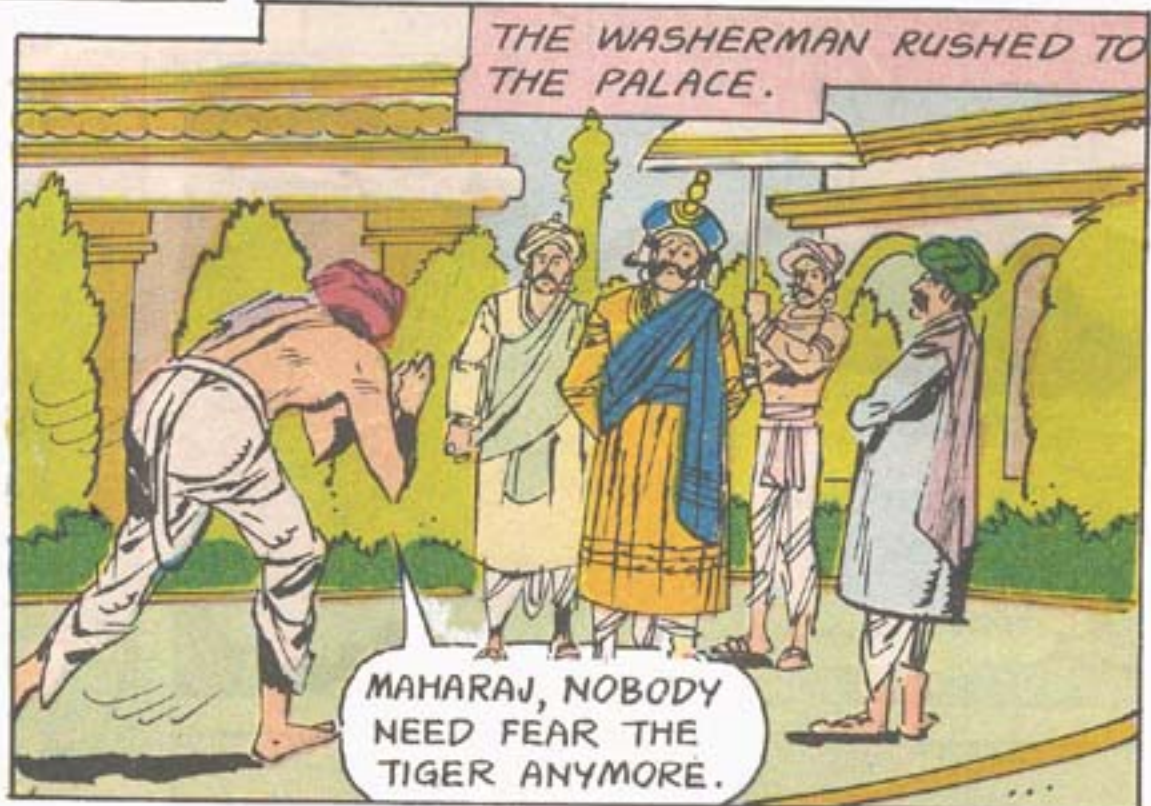
THE FOLLOWING MORNING A WASHERMAN WHO WAS GOING TO THE PALACE SAW THE TIGER.



HE MUST HAVE DIED OF INDIGESTION OR SOMETHING! WHAT A STROKE OF LUCK!



THE WASHERMAN RUSHED TO THE PALACE.



I MET HIM JUST NOW AND ... AND I BEAT HIM TO DEATH!

YOU DID WHAT?



I BEAT HIM TO DEATH. HE IS LYING OUTSIDE.



THE TIGER WAS BROUGHT IN AND EVERYONE MARVELLED AT THE WASHERMAN'S BRAVERY.

HE HAS PUT OUR GREATEST WARRIORS TO SHAME.



YOU HAVE DONE THE KINGDOM A GREAT SERVICE. YOU WILL BE WELL REWARDED.

WAIT, FATHER!



THAT'S RIGHT! WHAT HAPPENED TO THE TIGER'S PAWS AND TAIL?

I...I...



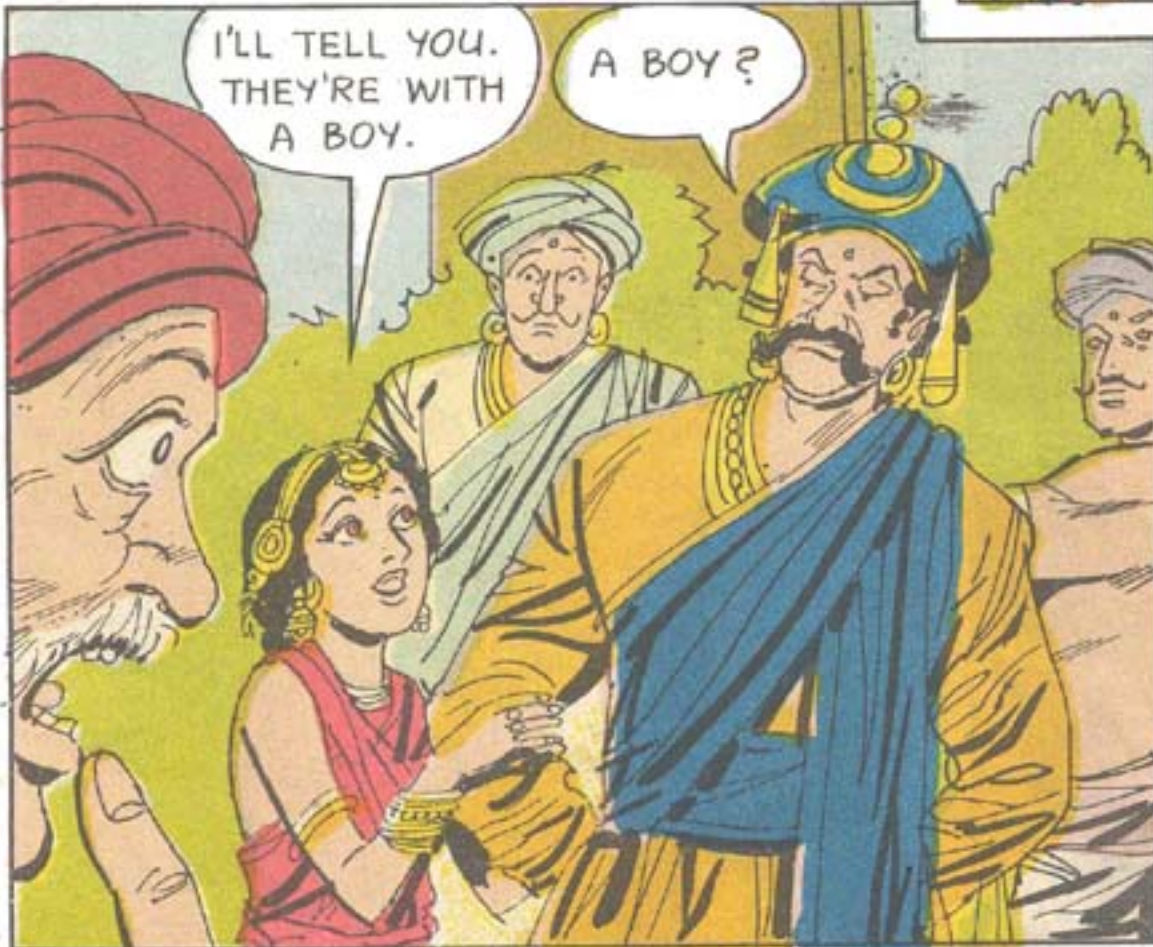
PLEASE ASK HIM WHAT HAPPENED TO THE TIGER'S PAWS AND TAIL.

PAWS AND TAIL?

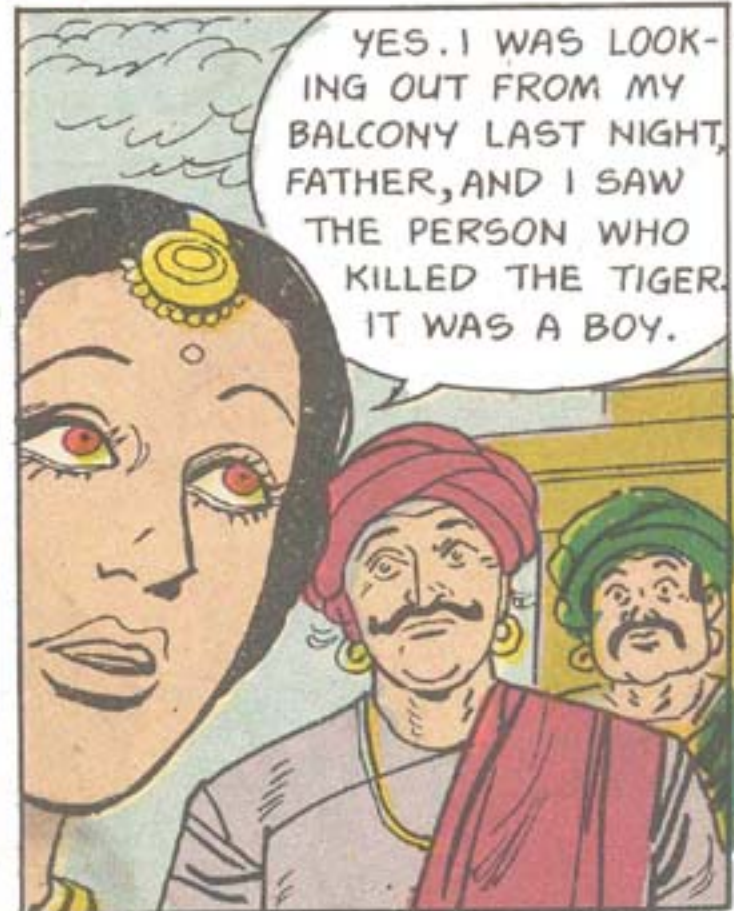


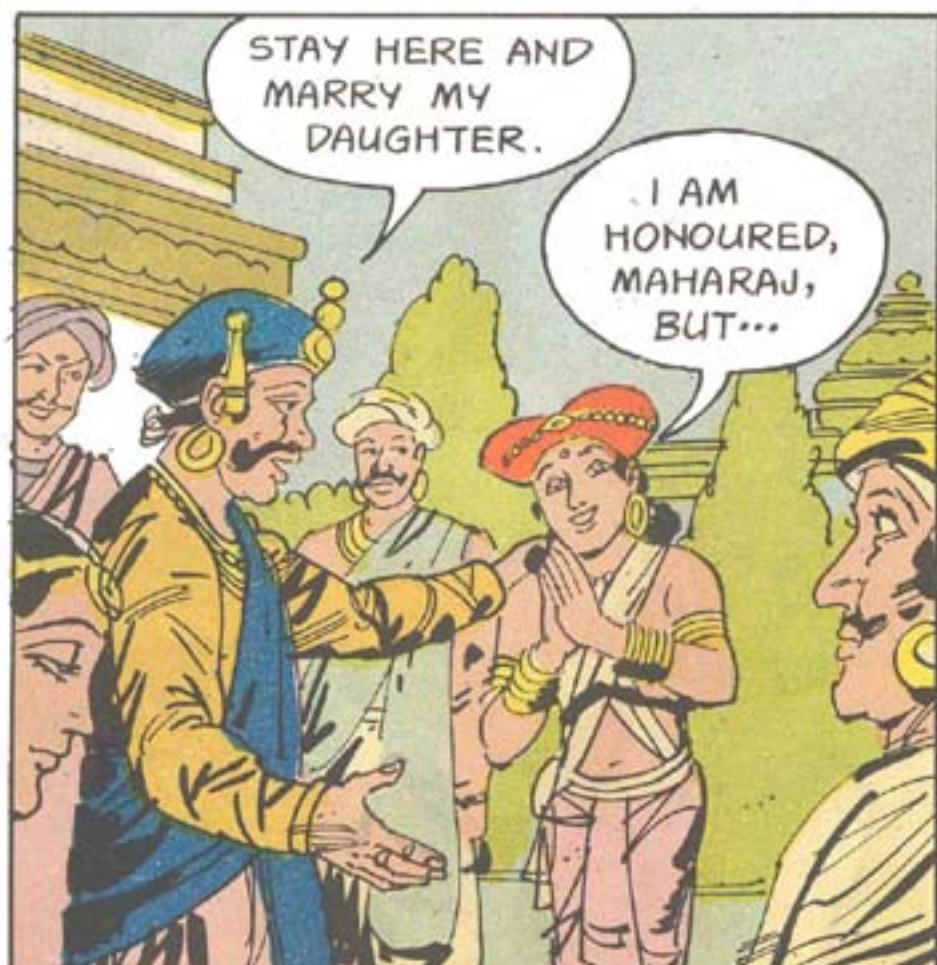
I'LL TELL YOU. THEY'RE WITH A BOY.

A BOY?



YES. I WAS LOOKING OUT FROM MY BALCONY LAST NIGHT, FATHER, AND I SAW THE PERSON WHO KILLED THE TIGER. IT WAS A BOY.

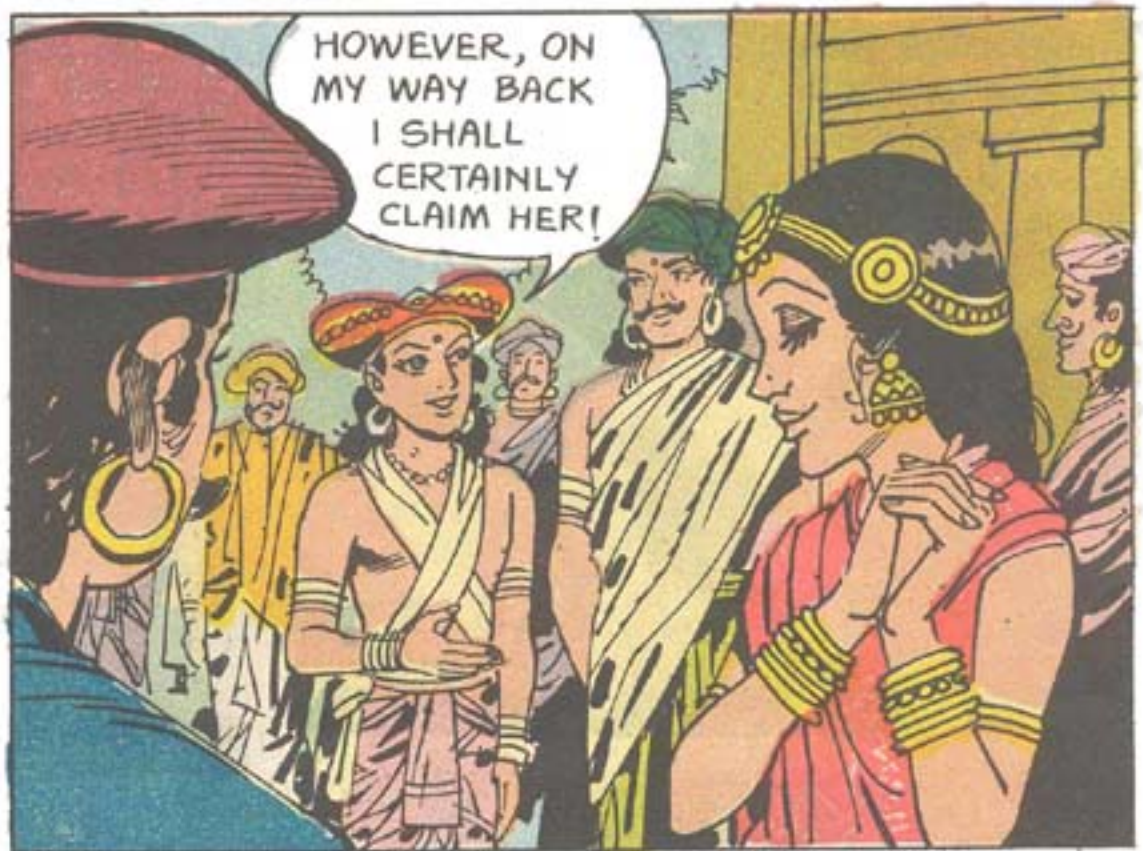




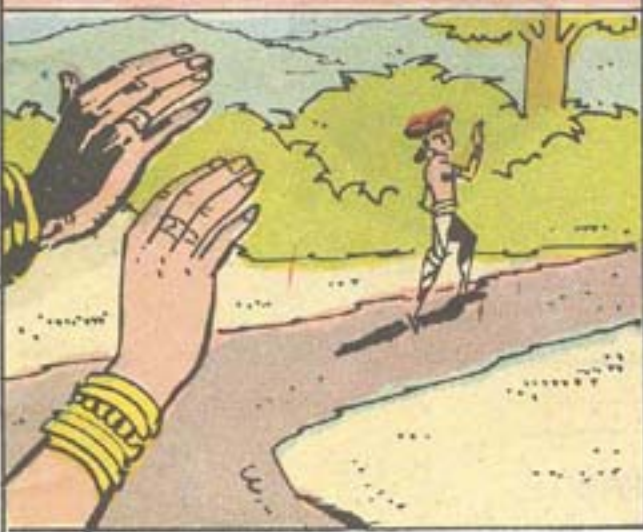
... I CANNOT STAY HERE. I AM ON MY WAY TO THE CITY OF THE MAGICIAN TO FIND MY PARENTS.



HOWEVER, ON MY WAY BACK I SHALL CERTAINLY CLAIM HER!



SOON AFTERWARDS, BALARAJU TOOK HIS LEAVE OF THE GRATEFUL KING AND HIS SUBJECTS AND JOURNEYED ON.



SEVERAL DAYS LATER HE REACHED ANOTHER KINGDOM. ONE NIGHT AS HE WAS SLEEPING IN THE OPEN —



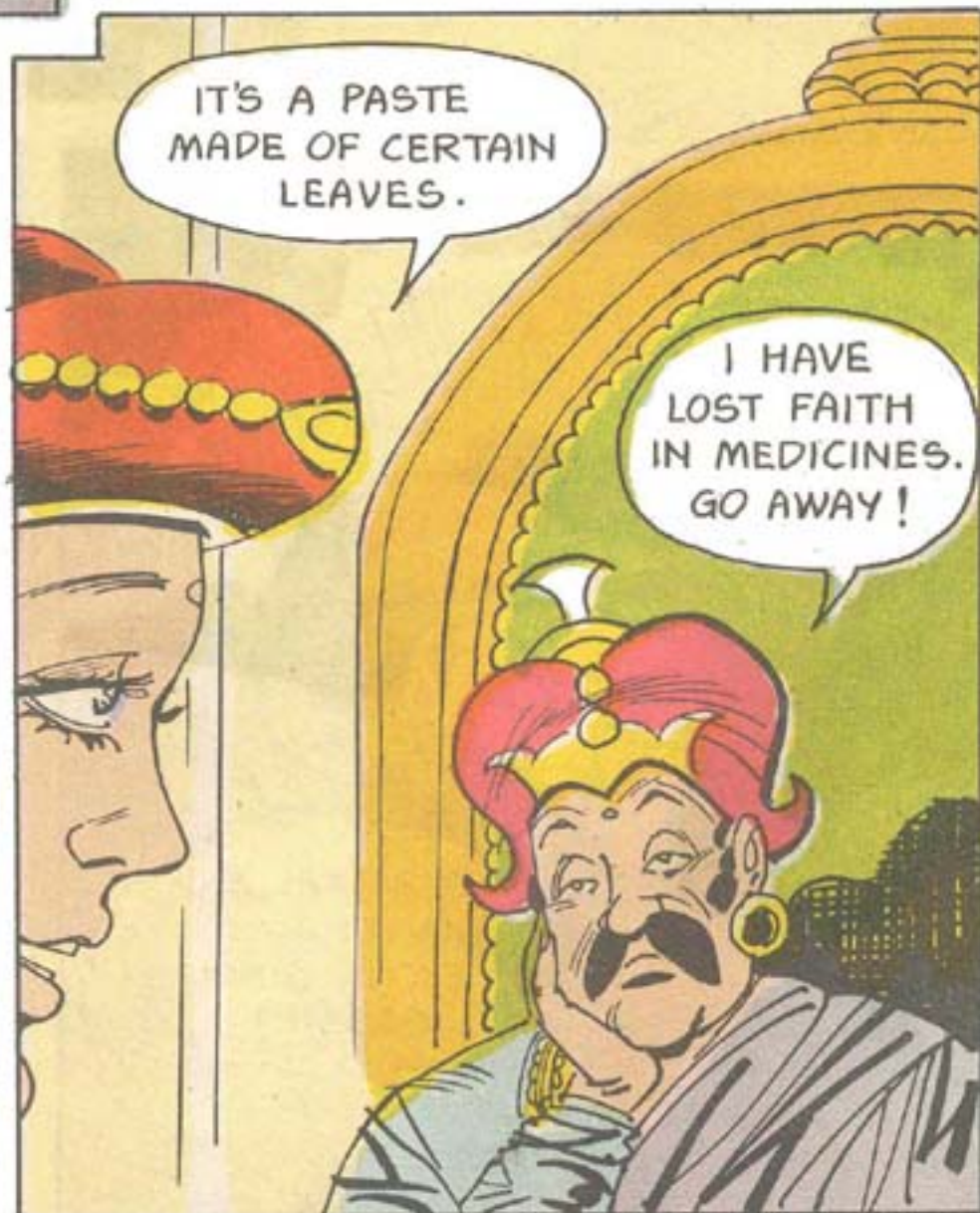
GROWWL...OW...

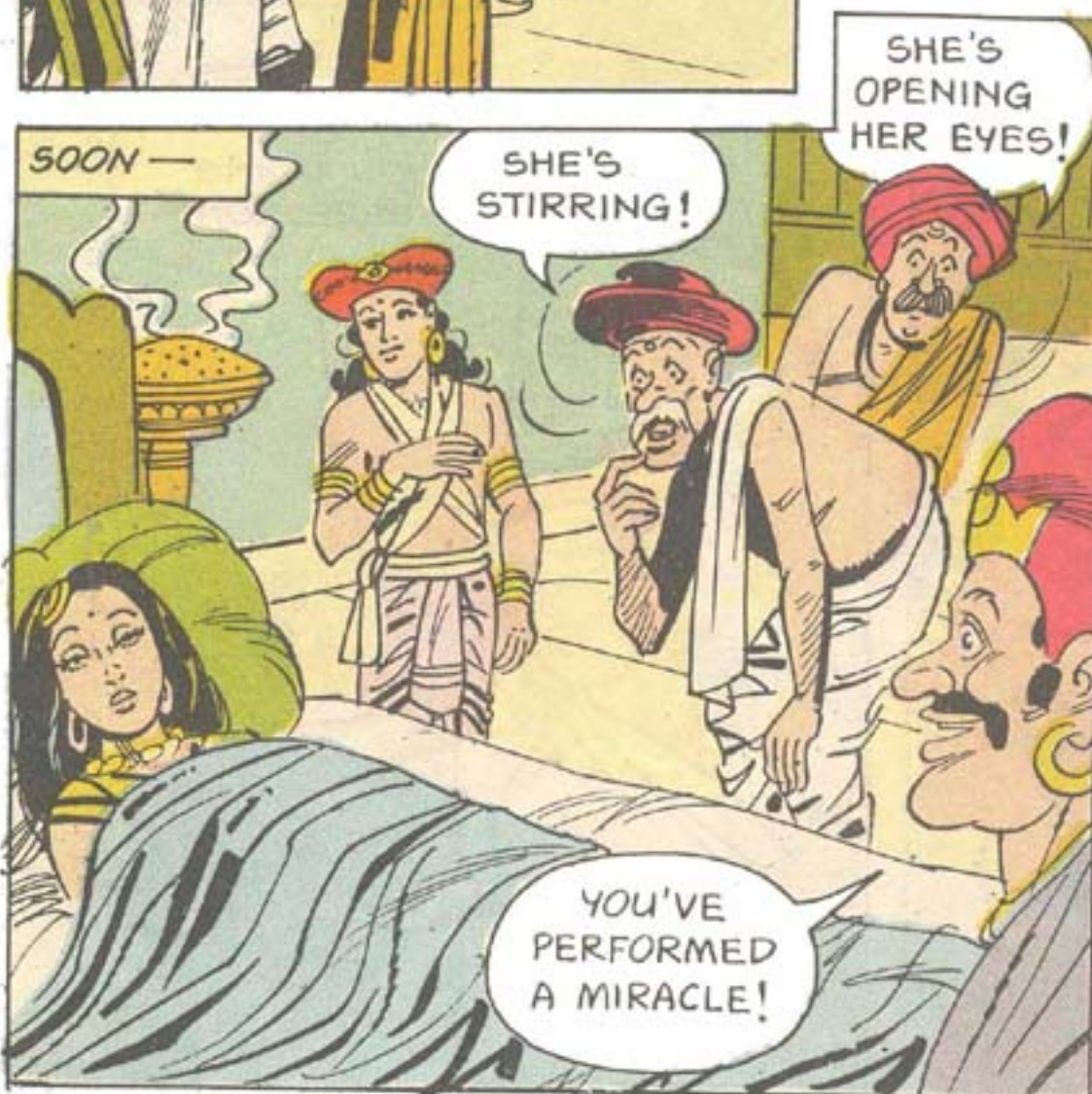
A JACKAL AND A HYENA EXCHANGING GOSSIP!

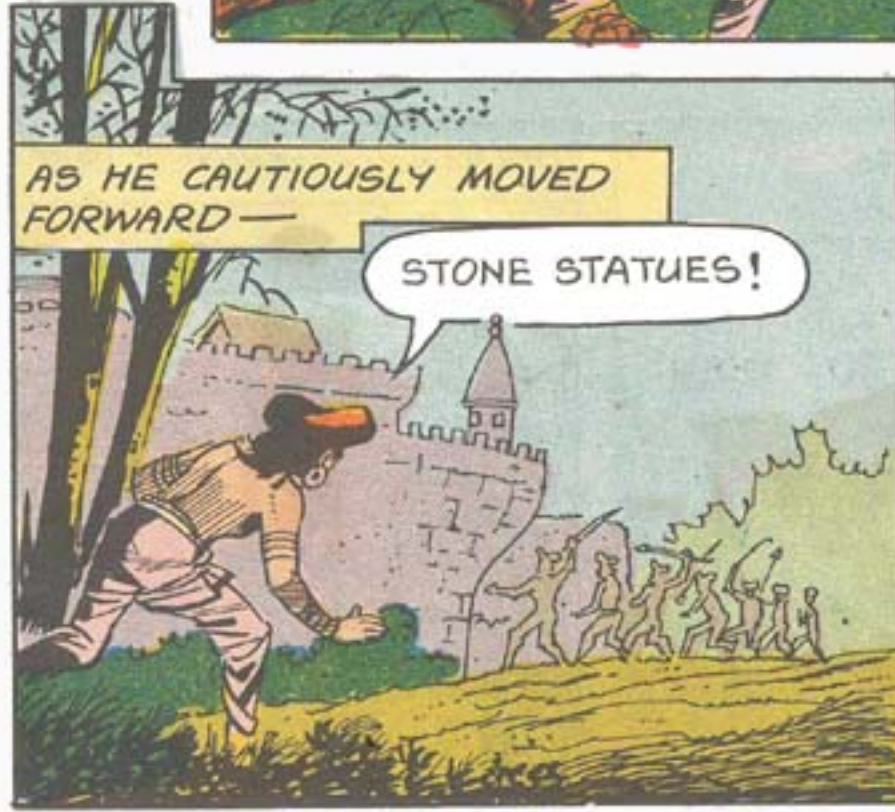
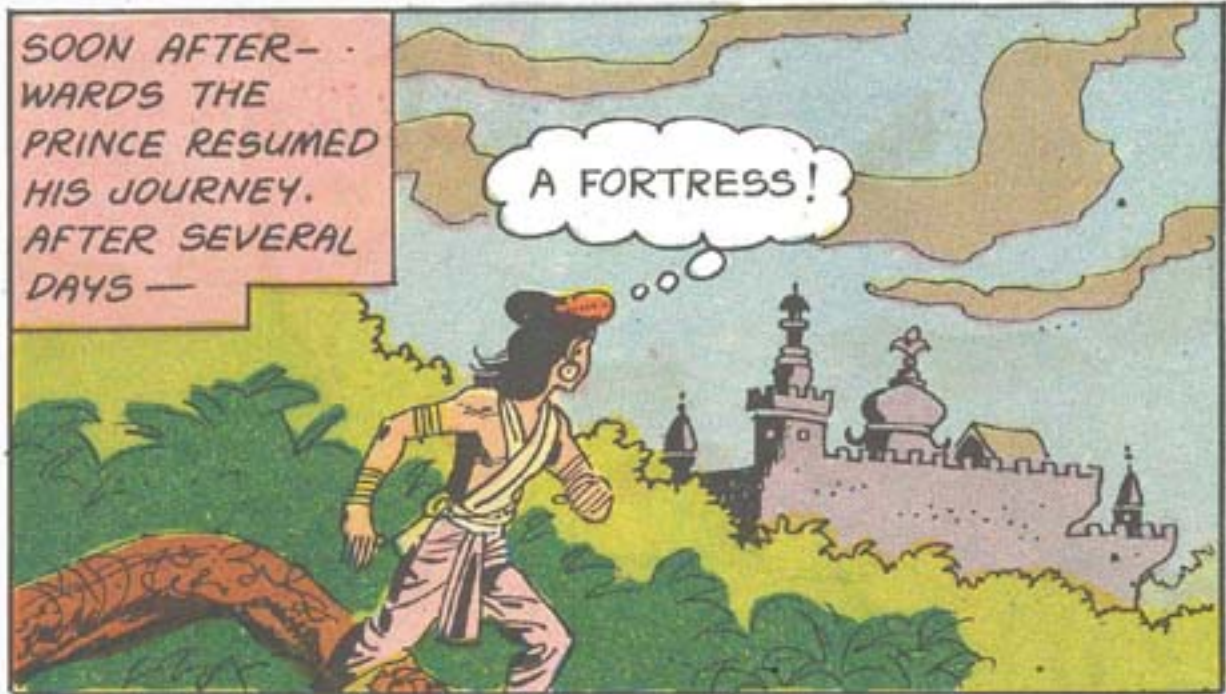


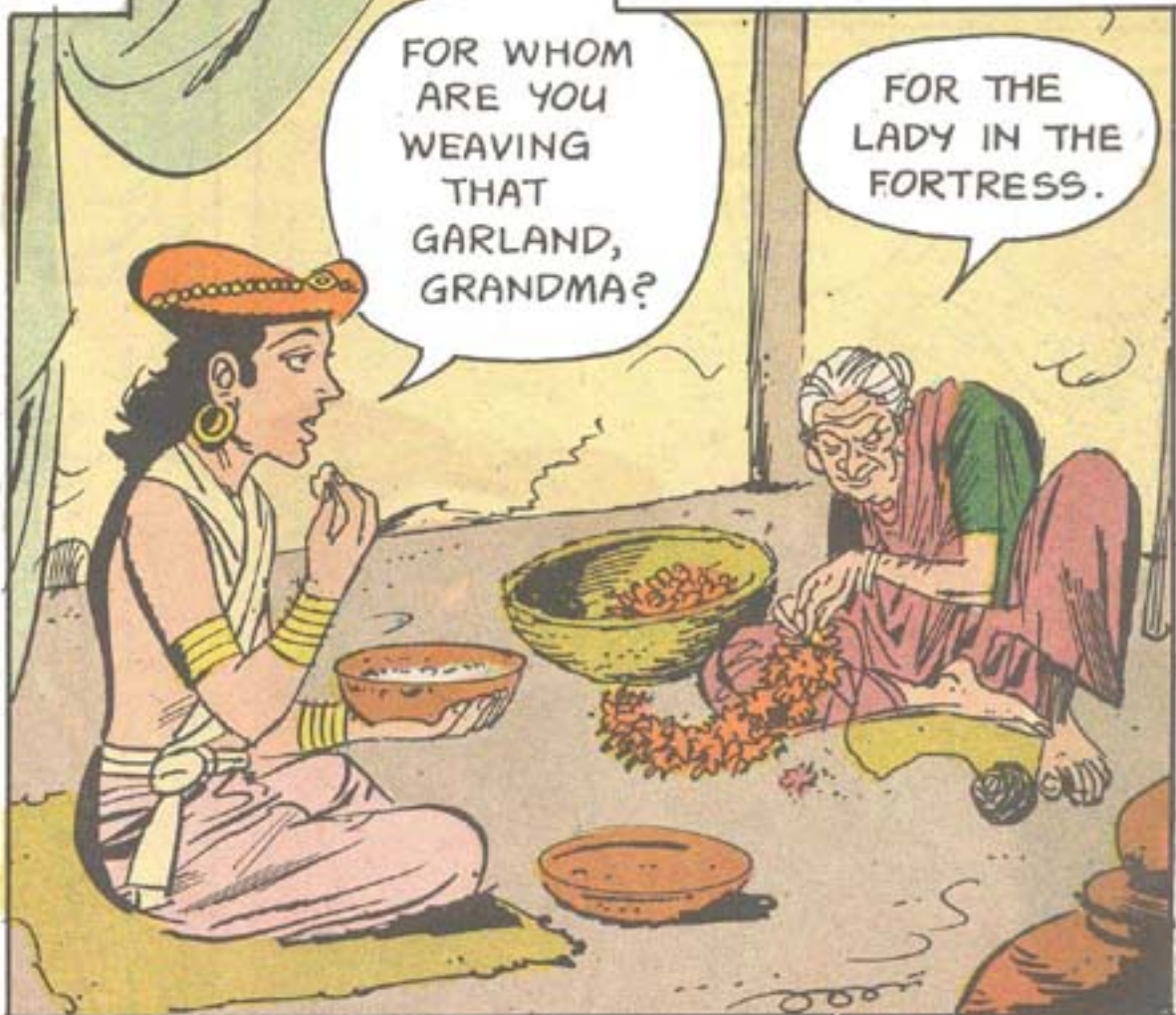
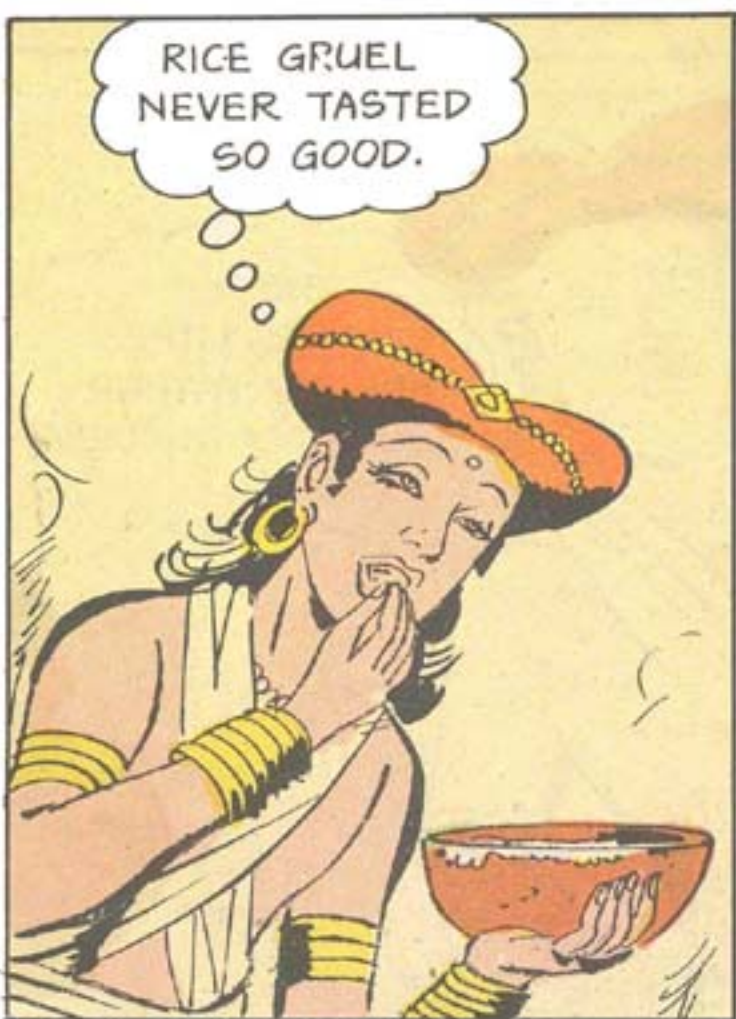
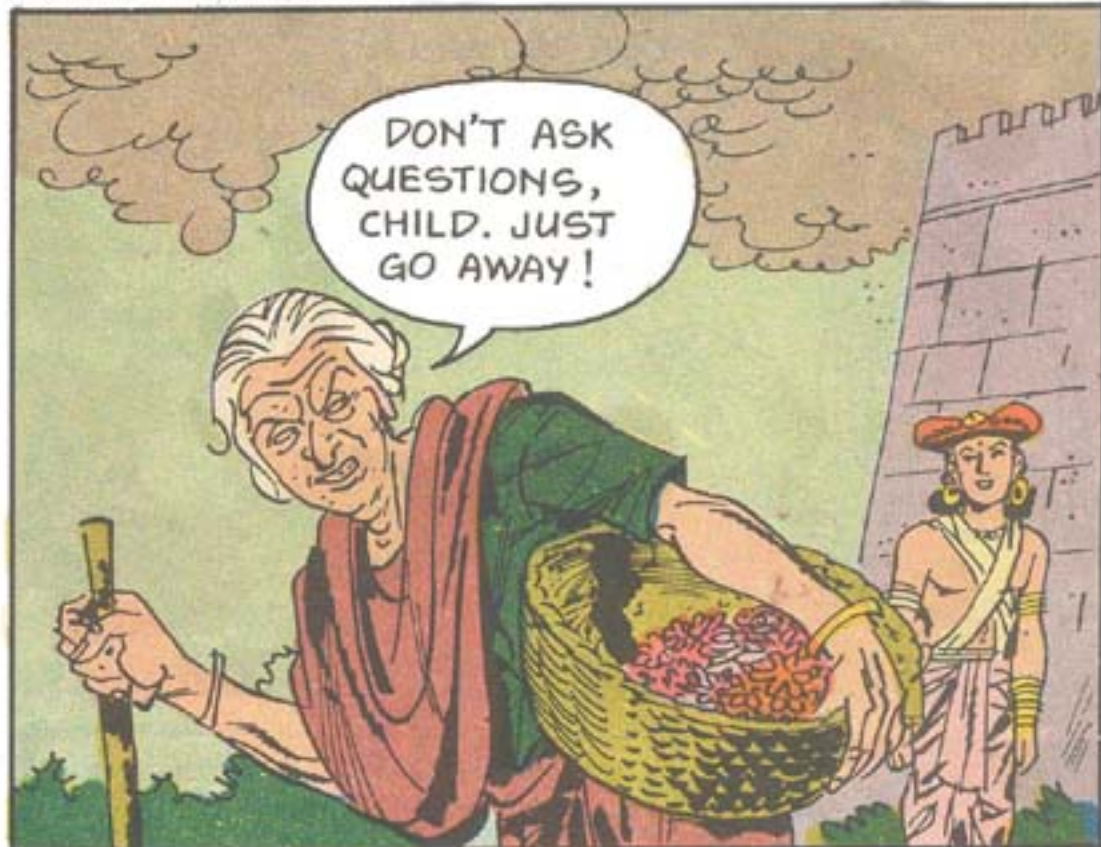
BALARAJU KNEW THE LANGUAGE OF ANIMALS. HE CREPT CLOSER TO LISTEN TO WHAT THE JACKAL AND THE HYENA WERE SAYING.

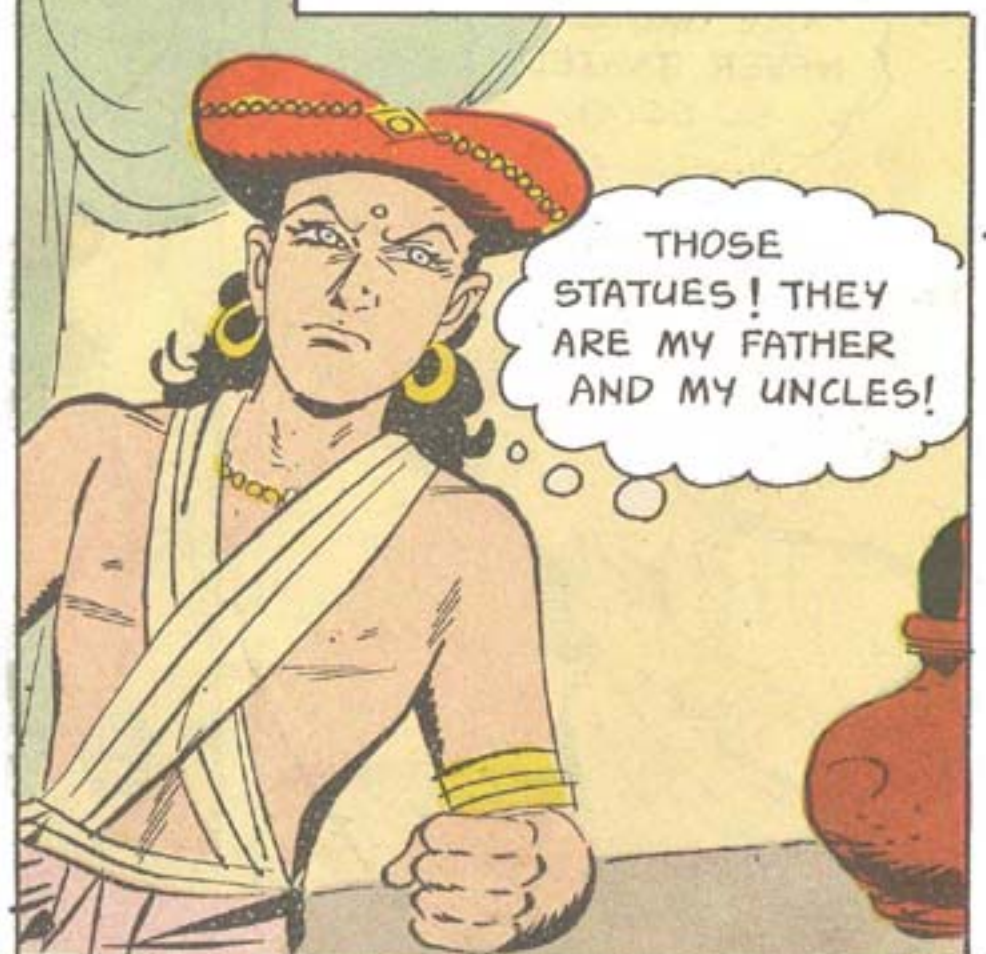




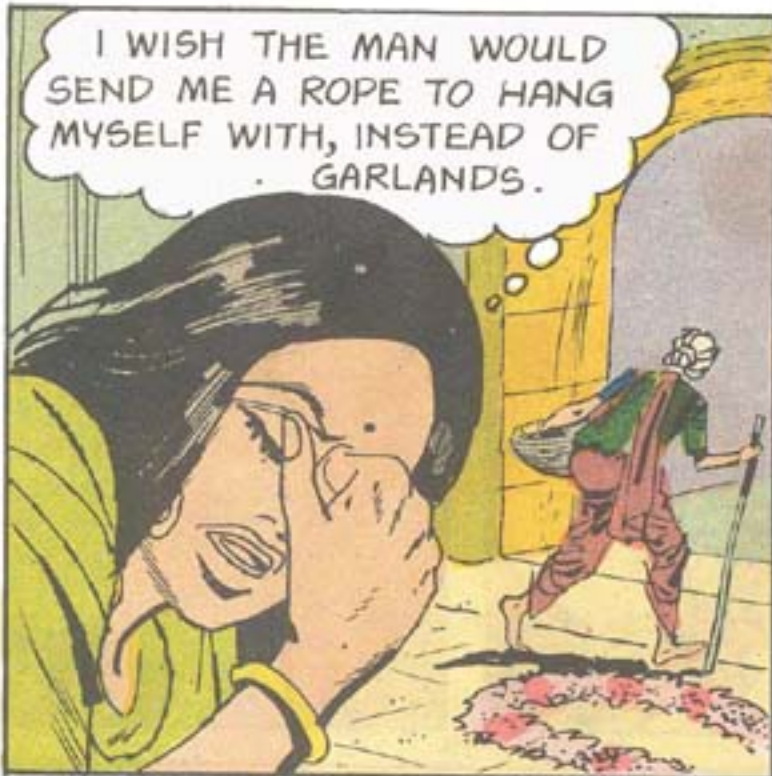
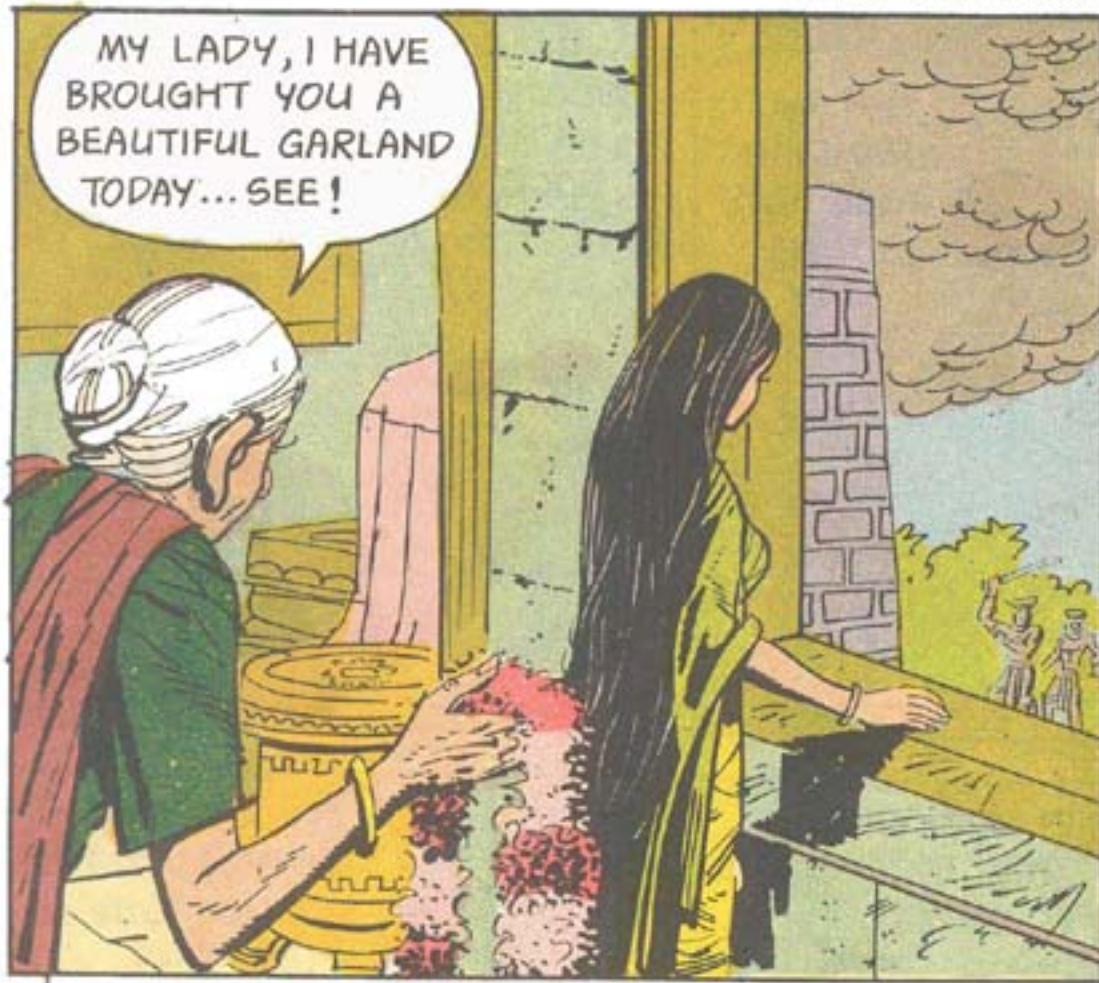












MEANWHILE BALARAJU HAD BEEN EAGERLY WAITING FOR THE OLD WOMAN TO RETURN. WHEN HE SAW HER —

DID SHE ACCEPT THE GARLAND?

ER... NO.

DON'T GET ANGRY, SON. SHE DESERVES OUR SYMPATHY. SHE HAS ONLY A FEW DAYS LEFT TO HER.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

WHEN THE MAGICIAN BROUGHT HER HERE, SHE REFUSED TO MARRY HIM.

BUT WHEN SHE REALISED THAT HE WOULD MARRY HER BY FORCE SHE AGREED TO MARRY HIM—AFTER TWELVE YEARS.

THE TWELVE YEARS ARE ALMOST UP. ONLY A FEW DAYS ARE LEFT.

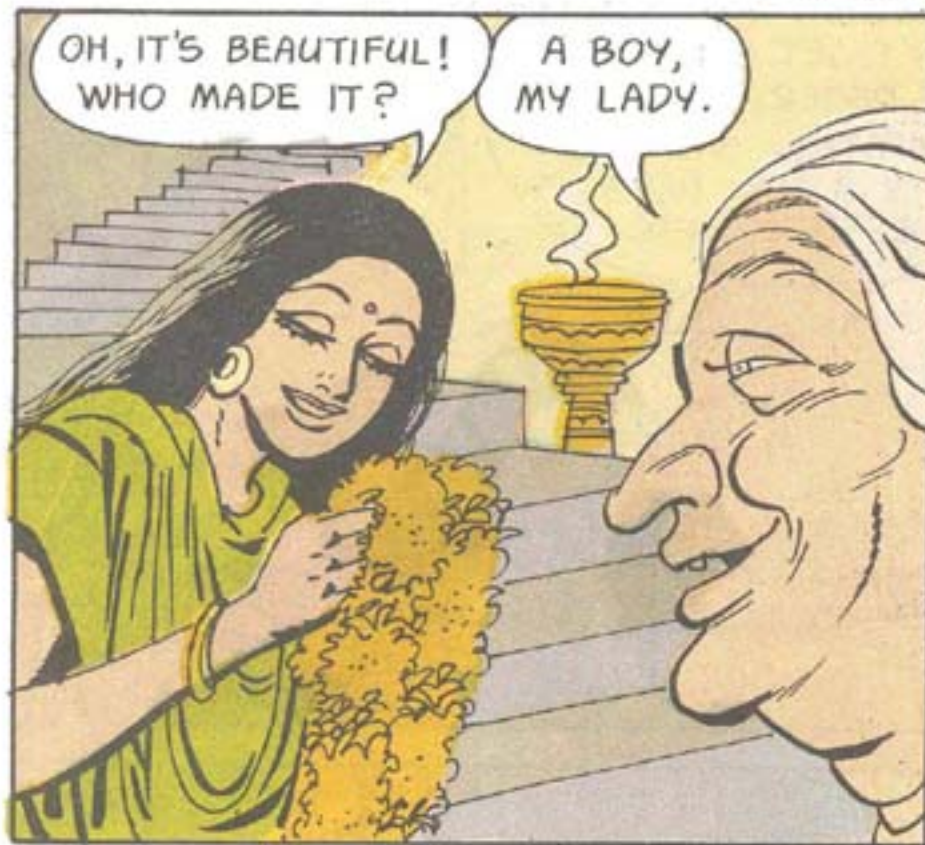
THEN I MUST HURRY.

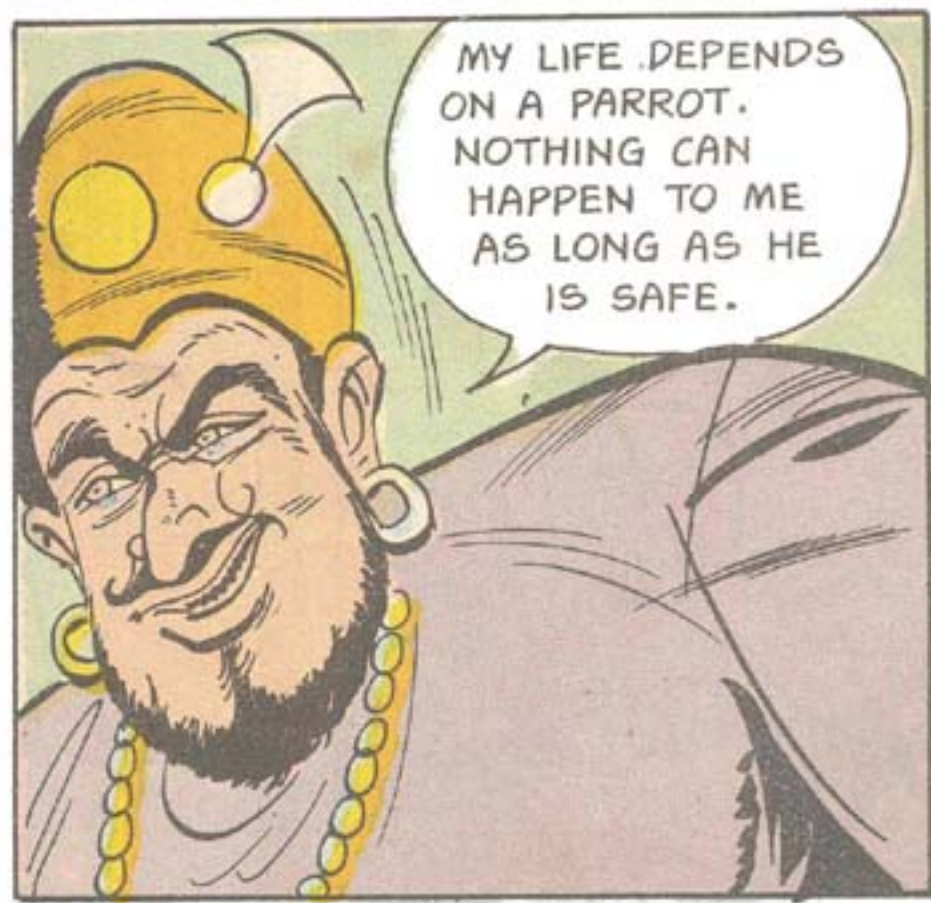
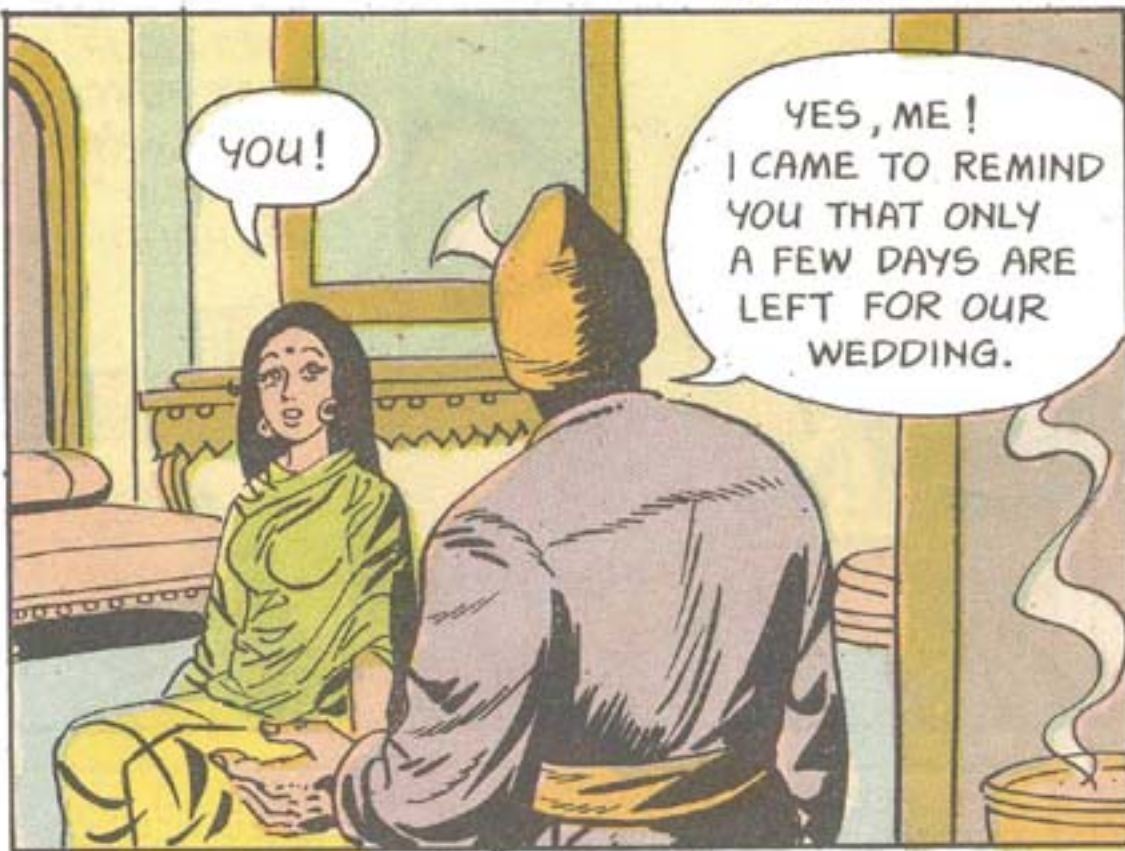
WHEN THE OLD WOMAN WENT TO THE FORTRESS THE NEXT MORNING, TO HER SURPRISE BALA NAGAMMA WAS EAGERLY WAITING FOR HER!

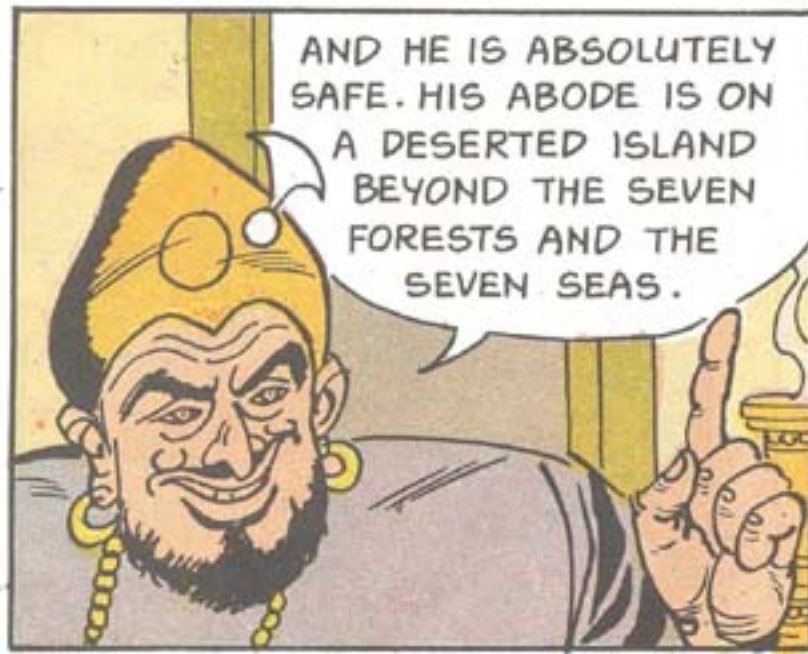
HAVE YOU BROUGHT ME A GARLAND?

OF COURSE, MY LADY!

HERE!







AND HE IS ABSOLUTELY SAFE. HIS ABODE IS ON A DESERTED ISLAND BEYOND THE SEVEN FORESTS AND THE SEVEN SEAS.



SO SET YOUR MIND AT REST. I SHALL ALWAYS BE BY YOUR SIDE. HAHHAHA!



THE NEXT MORNING WHEN THE OLD WOMAN RETURNED FROM THE FORTRESS —

THE LADY HAS SENT YOU THESE SWEETS.

HOW KIND OF HER!



SHE SEEMS TO HAVE BECOME VERY FOND OF YOU.

THERE MUST BE A MESSAGE INSIDE.



YES, HERE IT IS!



"HE IS SAFE AS LONG AS THE PARROT WHO DWELLS ON THE ISLAND BEYOND THE SEVEN FORESTS AND THE SEVEN SEAS, IS SAFE..."



... BE CAREFUL, MY SON...



GRANDMA, I AM GOING!

WHERE?



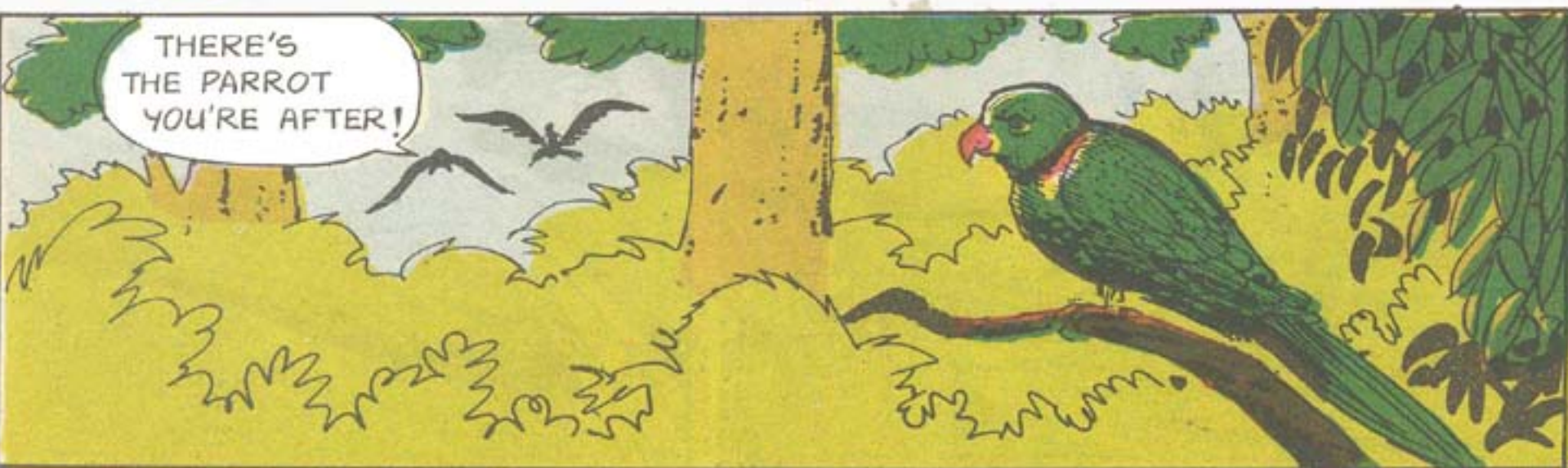
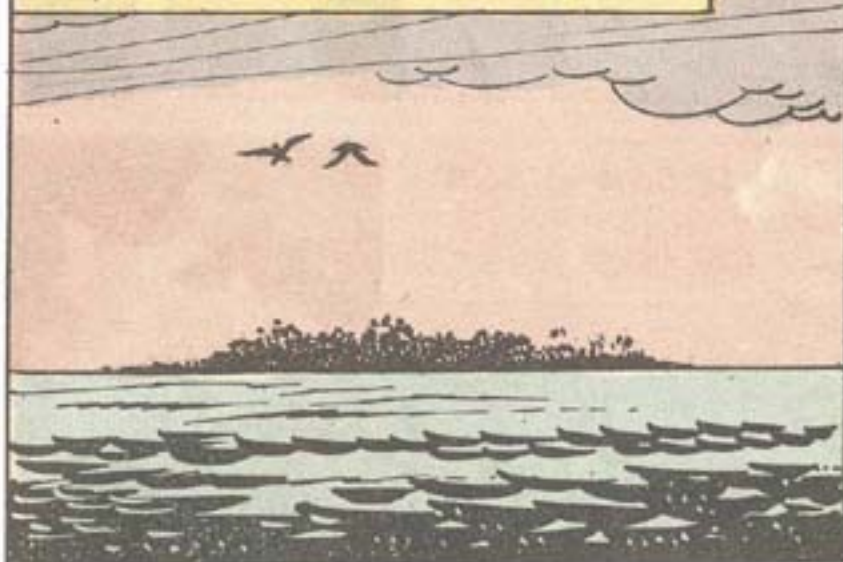
AS THE SNAKE FELL, TWO EAGLES SWOOPED DOWN.



SOON —



THE EAGLES FLEW BALARAJU OVER THE SEVEN FORESTS AND THE SEVEN SEAS TO THE DESERTED ISLAND.





GOT YOU!



THAT SAME MOMENT, AT THE MAGICIAN'S FORTRESS —

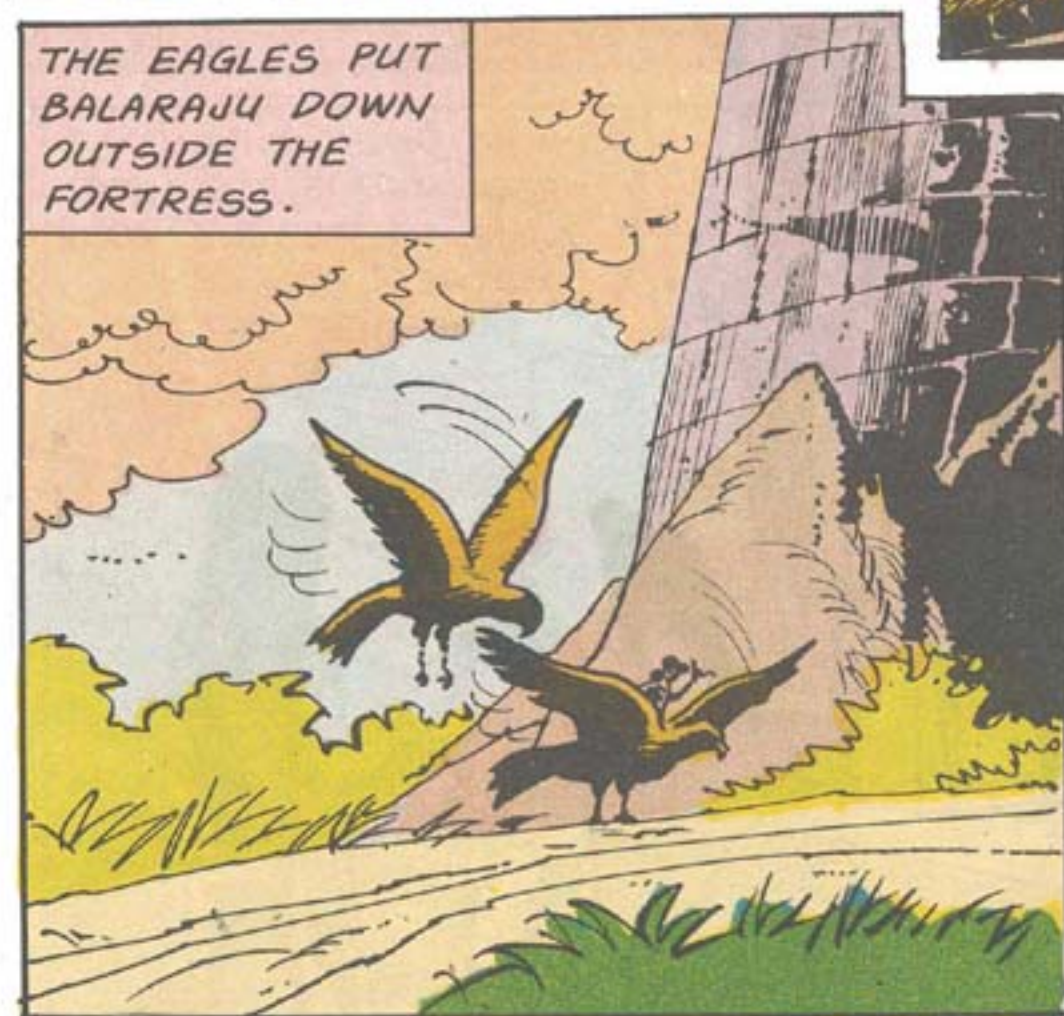
AHH!



SOMEBODY HAS CAUGHT ME...
ARRGH!



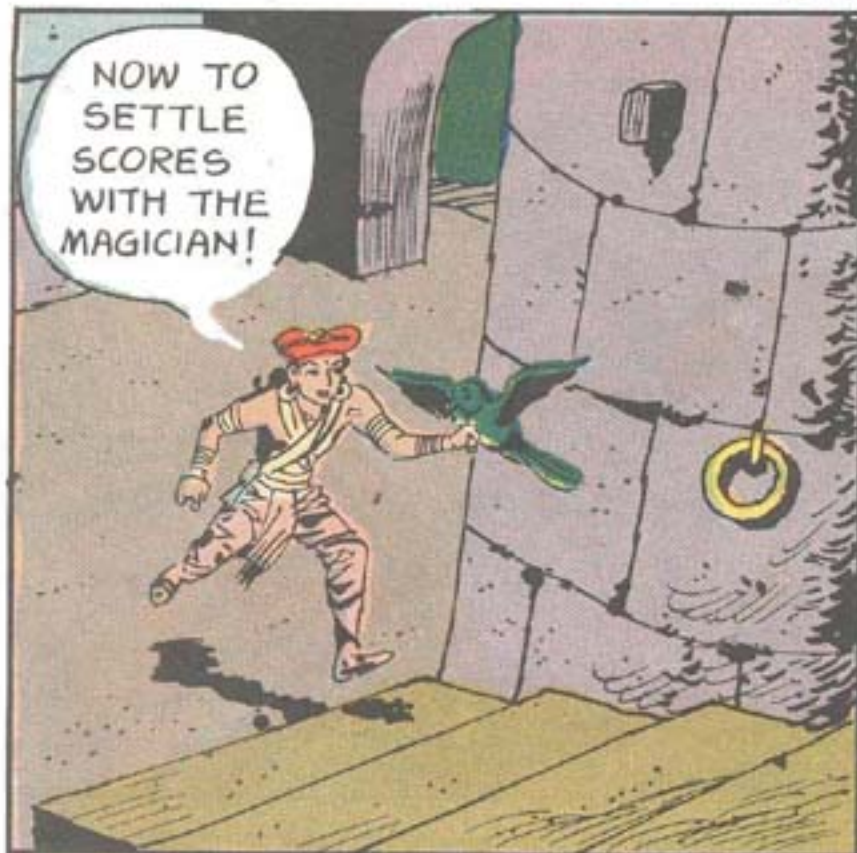
STOP STRUGGLING!
YOU CAN'T ESCAPE!

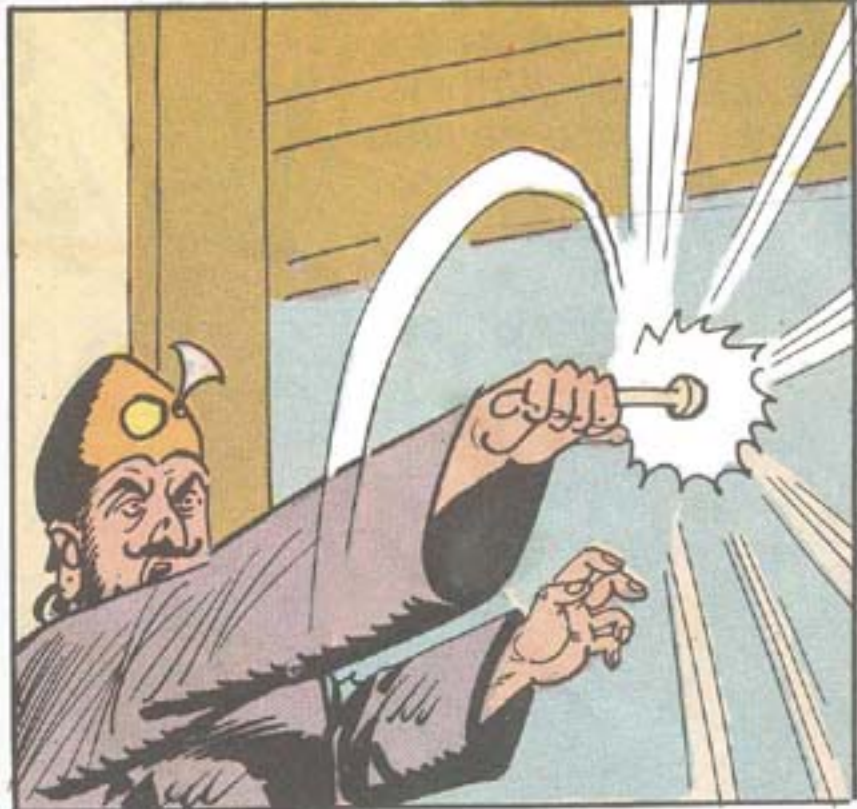


THE EAGLES PUT BALARAJU DOWN
OUTSIDE THE FORTRESS.

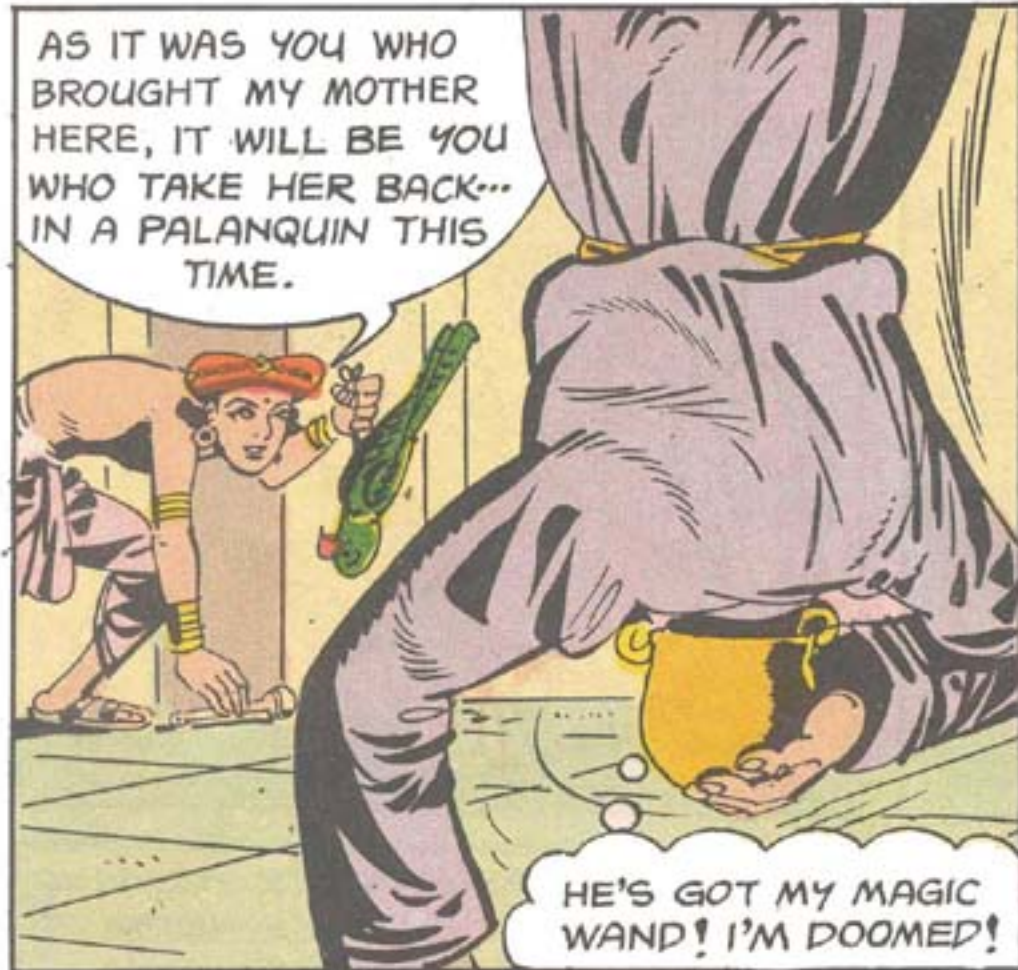


GOODBYE...
AND THANK YOU FOR
YOUR HELP!





AS IT WAS YOU WHO BROUGHT MY MOTHER HERE, IT WILL BE YOU WHO TAKE HER BACK... IN A PALANQUIN THIS TIME.



HE'S GOT MY MAGIC WAND! I'M DOOMED!

I'LL DO ANYTHING! PLEASE PUT ME ON MY FEET AGAIN!



BALARAJU SAID GOODBYE TO THE OLD WOMAN WITH WHOM HE HAD STAYED...

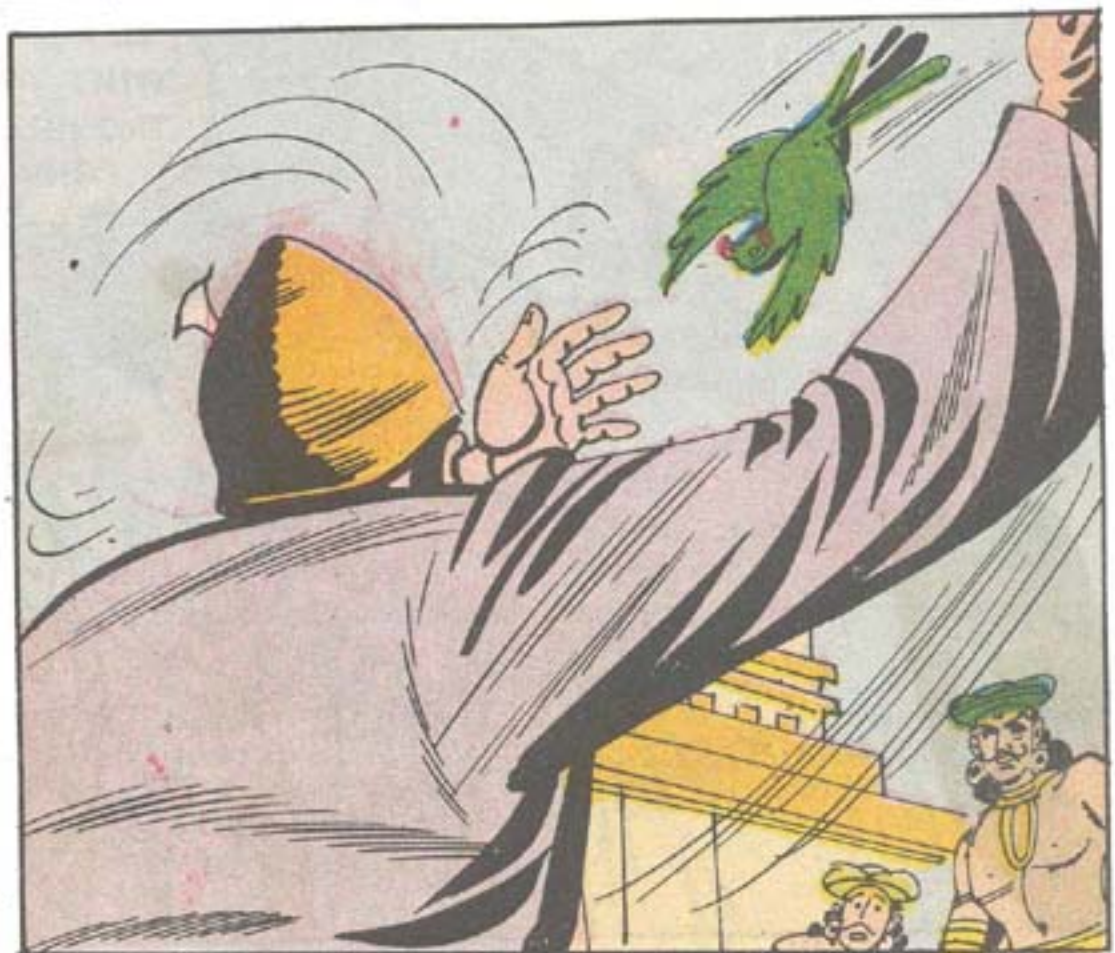


...AND THEN, HE, HIS PARENTS AND HIS UNCLES SET OFF FOR HOME.



AS THE STRANGE PROCESSION WENDED ITS WAY HOME, BALARAJU RENEWED HIS ACQUAINTANCE WITH ALL THE PEOPLE HE HAD MET EARLIER.

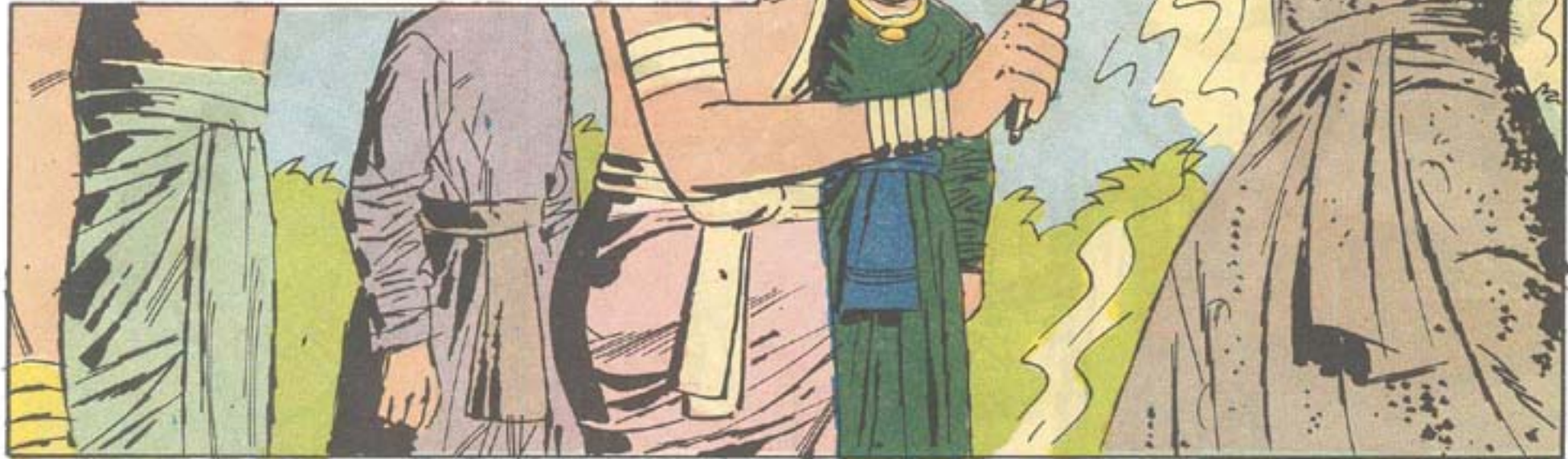




AS THE MAGICIAN LUNGED FOR THE PARROT —



THE POOR BIRD...
BUT THERE WAS
NO OTHER WAY!



LET'S GO, SON.
THAT MAN WON'T
TROUBLE ANYBODY
ANYMORE.



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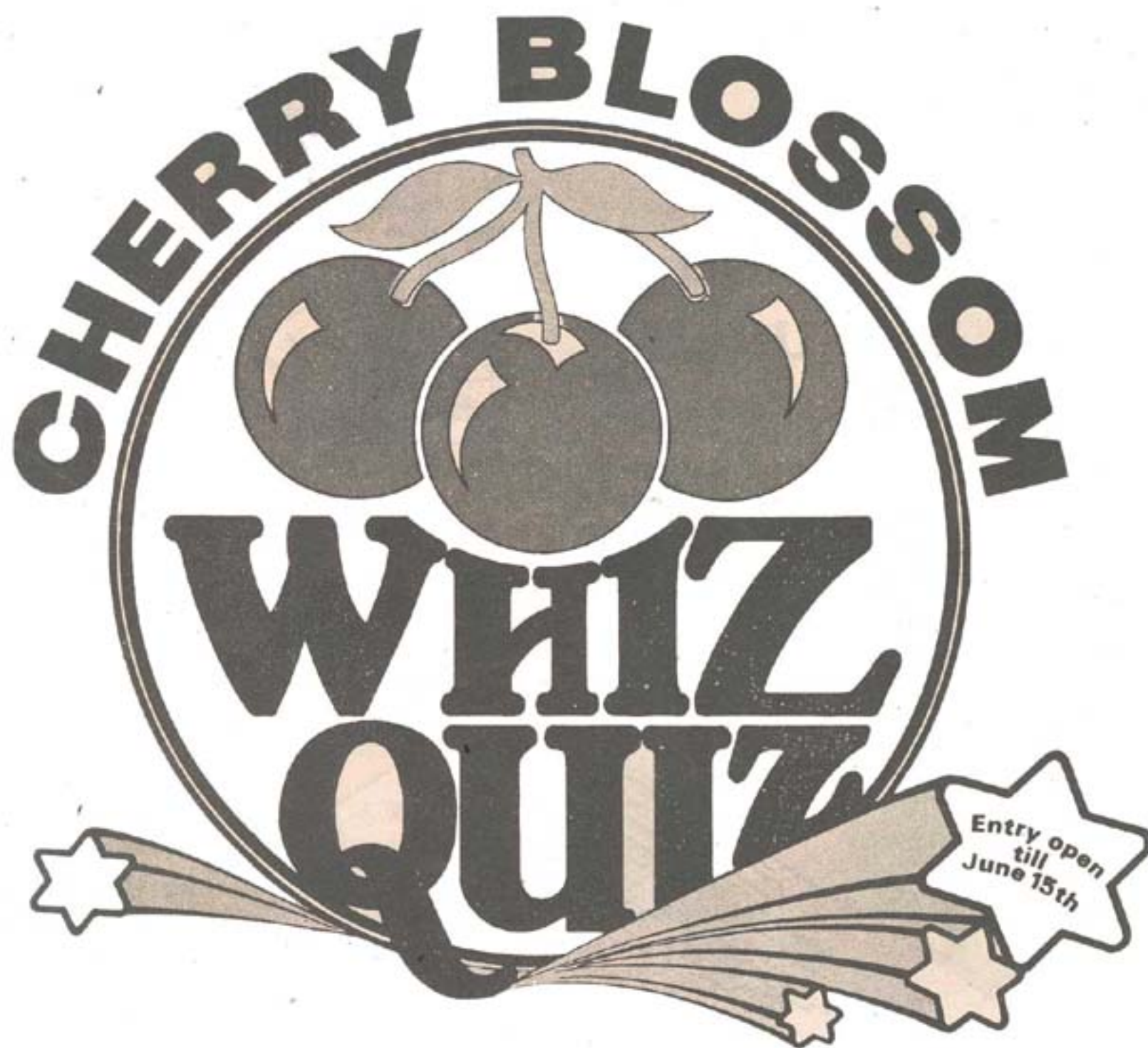
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Calling all Whiz Kids!



It's easy! It's fun!!

There are over 100 fabulous prizes to be won!!!

All you have to do is tick off the right answers to the five questions given, tell us why you Cherry Blossom your shoes every day, and mail the entry form to us, duly completed and accompanied by the inner foil of one 40gm Cherry Blossom tin or the foils from two 15gm Cherry Blossom tins. And you could win one of many fabulous prizes!

Sound Prizes From H.M.V.



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* HMV Orbit 404

First, second and third prizes may be exchanged for other HMV products of equivalent cost.

Every Entrant Wins!

A fabulous discount coupon on HMV players (Fiesta, Popstar and Swinger) for all entries received before 30th May, 1982.

RULES

1. The contest is open to school children only (up to Class XII). This will be verified for all award winners. Contestants should be residents of the Indian Union. 2. You may send in as many entries as you wish but each entry must be accompanied by 1 inner aluminium foil from a 40gm Cherry Blossom tin or 2 foils from 15gm tins of Cherry Blossom. 3. Entries should be addressed to the Advertiser, Cherry Blossom Whiz Quiz, P.O. Box No. 9192, Park Street, Calcutta 700 016. Registered mail will not be accepted. 4. Last date of receipt of entries is 15-6-1982. Illegible, incomplete and late entries will be disqualified. 5. The decision of the judges will be final and binding. No correspondence will be entertained. In the event of a tie, the value of the prizes will be equally divided among the winners. 6. Children of the employees of Reckitt & Colman of India Ltd. and Lintas India are not eligible to join the contest.

ENTRY FORM

- Who sang the song 'Mera Joota hai Japani'?
☐ Lata ☐ Mukesh ☐ Kishore
- Behind a rider's shoe is a piece of metal which is used for prodding the horse. What is it called?
☐ Spear ☐ Spur ☐ Goad
- A fairy tale character lost her glass slipper. Who was she?
☐ Snow White ☐ Cinderella ☐ Red Riding Hood
- What is the first name of the Indian Film heroine whose last name is also a style of footwear?
☐ Rekha ☐ Padmini ☐ Poonam
- Listed below are 9 qualities of Cherry Blossom. Select the 7 you feel are most important and rank them from 1 to 7 in what you feel is their order of importance by putting the rank in the box provided.
☐ Has an International formula
☐ Nourishes leather
☐ Gives a longer lasting shine
☐ Is economical
☐ Is easy to use
☐ Contains imported waxes
☐ Gives a mirror shine
☐ Makes shoes last longer
☐ Keeps leather soft

Please complete the following sentence in not more than 10 words (English or Hindi)

I Cherry Blossom my shoes every day because

मैं अपने जूते रोज़ चैरो ब्लॉसम से चमकाता हूँ क्योंकि

Name: _____

Address: _____

Entries should reach us at the following address on or before 15.6.82. The Advertiser, Cherry Blossom Whiz Quiz, P.O. Box No: 9192, Park Street, Calcutta — 700 016.



Did you Cherry Blossom your shoes today?



Green
Silver
Orange
Silver
Red
Silver
Yellow

No foolin'!

Real Poppins

now have a
silver striped wrappin'!

Guess what, kids! The tricksters
can't fool you now. All you do
is watch for the silver stripes
on the Parle POPPINS
colourful foil pack.
Then, keep poppin' them in
for fruity flavoured
fun, okay?

WATCH FOR
THE SILVER STRIPES
BEFORE YOU
POP'EM IN.

PARLE
POPPINS

Now,
the imitators can't
fool you.

